1888.

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WREELY, 50 cents a line, no extra charge for large TUESDAY, FERRUARY 14 1888.

Advertisements for THE WEEKLY SUN tenued to-morrow morning, must be handed in this evening before six o'clock.

Mr. Blaine's Withdrawal.

Mr. BLAINE's withdrawal from the canvass is no surprise to unprejudiced observers. It is unquestionably sincere and decisive. No expectation need be entertained that the admirers and ardent personal friends of Mr. BLAINE will be able to force the nomination upon him in spite of his refusal. He is pos itively and finally out of the running.

There are several reasons which establish this proposition. In the first place, there is no possible cause for the withdrawal except the clear and settled purpose of its author that he will no longer be a candidate. Secondly, Mr. BLAINE is a sincere person, and deception on such a subject is not merely below his dignity; it is contrary to his habit. In the third place, there is, in his case, no occasion for a sham withdrawal. It could not add anything to his popularity or his ability to obtain the nomination. Fourthly, a sham withdrawal would be fatal to the main purpose. If, after having declined, Mr. BLAINE should consent, under any stress of party compulsion, to accept the nomination and to stand as a candidate, the fact that he had once withdrawn would settle the election against him beforehand.

The withdrawal is creditable to Mr. BLAINE. It shows that he possesses an elevation of ambition and a patriotic devotion to his party which forbid him to subject it to the risk of defeat for the mere purpose of a personal gratification for himself.

Substitute Mr. Cleveland's Name for Mr. Blaine's.

We suppose the reason why Mugwump newspapers like the New York Times profess disbellet in the sincerity of Mr. Brarne's withdrawal is that they are very reluctant to have him leave the field. The corner stone of the Mugwump system is personal opposition to BLAINE. With BLAINE out. even the Mugwumps themselves must feel that their importance has forever departed. The disappointment of the Mugwumps at the loss of their only political capital finds

expression in such sneers as this from the New York Times of yesterday:

"But after all, the one striking feature in the present political situation is the extraordinary activity of the blican clubs all over the country. ILVINE clubs. The men who have organized and who control them are BLAINE men, and it is from BLAINE centres that the influences have cone forth and are still going forth to build up these clubs, and to prepare then for effective work at Chicago in June and during the eampaign. This conspicuous political fact belies the words which Mr. Blanz writes from Florence, and words which Mr. Blains writes from Florence, and makes his letter almost ridiculous. A machine of such unusual proportions, so carefully elaborated and put together, has not been set up on the mere chance that Mr. Blanz would be a candidate, or might be persuaded to be a candidate, and it will not be taken spart or turned over to the service of any of Mr BLAIRE's rivals merely because Mr. Blaire has written letter to Chairman Jones stating that his name will not be presented to the nominating convention. The Blairs agitation will go on as merrily as ever in spite of this rather ambiguous disclaimer of Presidential aspiratio on the part of Mr. BLAUNE. And if when the Chicag is its nomines, nothing will be easier than for him to write another letter to Mr. Jones, or to Mr. Jones's successor, explaining that when he was in Piorence he really did not understand the weight and potency and lid not understand the weight and potency and ble character of the popular demand for James

How easy it would be, by the change of a name here and there and a very few words besides, to make the language of the Times apply to the present attitude of another gentleman whose name has been conspicuously mentioned as a candidate for nomination by another party:

"But, after all, the one striking feature in the present cal situation is the extraordinary activity of Fed eral officeholders all over the country. These office holders are CLEVELAND workers. The men who have appointed and who control them are CLEVELAND men, and it is from CLEVELAND centres that the influences have gone forth, and are still going forth, to urge on thes officeholders and prepare them for effective work in the tic Convention and during the campaign. This ms political fact belies the words which Mr. Democratic Conven sed in his letter of acceptance, and makes that letter almost ridiculous. A machine of such un usual proportions, so carefully relaborated and pu Mr. Clavaland would be a candidate for reslection, or might be persuaded to be a candidate, and it will not be taken spart or turned over to the service of any of M CLEVELAND'S rivals merely because Mr. CLEVELIND Wrote principle and patriotism no President ought to wed to become a candidate for resjection. The CLEVELAND agitation will go on as merrily as ever in spite of this positive declaration of principle on the par of Mr. CLEVELAND. And if when the Democratic Con vention adjourns Mr. CLEVELAND shall discover that he is its nominee, nothing will be easier than for him write another letter to the Democratic party explaining that when he declared positively for the single-term principle he really did not understand the weight and potency and irresistible character of the popular d

mand for GROVER CLEVELAND. Would not that be deliberately and saamefully unjust to Mr. CLEVELAND, who has squarely declared that in his opinion the ineligibility of Presidents for reflection should be established by Constitutional amendment for the public good?

There is no recorded proof that Mr. CLEVE-LAND has ever changed his mind about the single-term principle, or has reconsidered or is preparing to reconsider his voluntary withdrawal of himself as a candidate for a

second term of office. And yet some of his admirers, who now affect to disbelieve in the sincerity of Mr. BLAINE's withdrawal, are trying to prepare the way for an act of almost unparalleled duplicity and selfishness on Mr. CLEVELAND's part, by insisting that when he pledged himself not to run for President a second time, he did not understand the weight and

potency and irresistible character of the popular demand for the reflection of GRO-VER CLEVELAND.

Committee Rule in Congress.

of the state of th

We printed last week a letter from Washington in which the Hon. Amos J. CUMMINGS, a member of Congress, raised a question of great public moment which long ago should have been brought home to the people by discussion in the press. On the face of it, this letter purported only to explain the committee system of the House of Repre sentatives and its effect upon the methods of transacting public business. But beneath the lucid exposition of the exist ing state of things in the popular chamber could be distinctly read the query, Is the House of Representatives, under its present rules of procedure, what the framers of our Constitution intend ed it to be, or is it even what the men who elect the Congressmen suppose it to be now? Has there been, in other words, a wide departure from the purpose of the fathers and the early customs of the House, and is something in the nature of deception practised on the people by the virtual strangulation of their especial spokesmen through the commit teesystem? Behind all such inquiries, more over, looms the fundamental question: Is the committee system an inevitable outgrowth of changed conditions, upon which, notwithstanding undeniable defects, it is impossible to suggest a material improvement?

These are large questions, all of which cannot, of course, be exhaustively considered at this time. But we can at least raise and examine some of them. For example, did our Constitution makers expect that an individual Congressman would possess less capacity of initiative, less power of promptly and effectively advocating the wishes of his constituents (within the limits of Federal legislation), than was exercised by a member of the British Parliament? That they had no such intention is plain from the reports of the debates in the Federal and State Conventions, and of the proceedings of the House of Representatives during the first thirty years of its existence. In the Senate, in the veto power of the President, and in the United States Supreme Court were reared the bulwarks against possible encroachment by the Federal popular assembly on the reserved rights of the States. Limitations of legislative competence, not limitations of individual activity, were imposed by the devisers of our organic law on the members of the lower House. That body, it was supposed, would constitute the busiest and most energetic means of debate; its chief actors would stand forth as the authentic interpreters of the people's latest will, and for that reason exercise preponderant influence over the cast of measures and, indirectly, over the choice of administrative officials.

How widespread was the conviction that

to the popular assembly the power of the republic would necessarily gravitate, and that there lay the field for the demonstration of personal ability and for a swift rise to eminence, is proved by the dearth of gifted and distinguished men in the first sessions of the Senate compared with the afflux of statesmen and orators to the lower House. What was true of the first House of Representatives was true of every succeeding House up to the Nineteenth Congress. In that branch of the legislature took place throughout that period nine-tenths of all the memorable debates; there it was that such young men as ALBERT GALLATIN, JOHN C. CALHOUN, and HENRY CLAY sprang almost in one session from obscurity to fame and power. So marked was the ascendancy acquired by the popular assembly over the public mind that for thirty years its members were permitted to arrogate the right of making for both political parties nominations for President and Vice-President-a stretch of authority which caused their good will to be courted by first-term Presidents and by Cabinet officers with a deference and dili gence never since displayed. Had that state of things continued half a century longer, Cabinet officers would in practice have become accountable to the House of Representatives, and we should then have had in this country what most of the men who framed and accepted the Constitution imagined they were establishing-parliamentary government. Never did those men suppose that they were creating a President ten times more mighty than a British sovereign, Senate far more powerful than the House of Lords has ever been since the reign of ANNE. On the contrary, they thought that in defined sphere of legislation they had dele gated, not less, but more power to the House of Representatives than had at that time been exercised by the House of Commons.

The preponderance of the lower House lasted until the debates on the admission of Missouri and of Maine brought home to the Southern slaveholding power the conviction that, owing to the more rapid growth of the North in population, the upholders of the peculiar institution could no longer count with certainty on controlling a majority of the popular assembly, and must henceforth intrench themselves in the Senate. From that date it became the interest of the slaveholders to exalt and magnify the upper House, wherein no State could ever, without its own consent, be deprived of equal repre sentation, and, on the other hand, to lowe the prestige and authority of the House of Representatives. Accordingly, the Senate then began to absorb the talents of the South, to miss no opportunity of asserting coordinate power in legislation. jealously guarding its exclusive besides means of influencing the Executive through its right of confirming treaties and nomi nations. Simultaneously, the Southern members of the House of Representatives ignorantly or obsequiously served by their Northern satellites, did their best to minimize the value of their own office by new and intricate rules of procedure, whose purpose was to paralyze and stifle individual initiative and relegate the inconvenient discus sion of burning questions from the floor of the House to the seclusion of committee rooms. In a word, the spirit which caused an ex-President, JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, to b metaphorically gagged and handcuffed in the House of Representatives, because he was an opponent of slavery extension, found its most efficient instrument in that elaborate rate engine of concentration and repression

known as the committee system. That system, whose faults have been brought out so sharply by Mr. CUMMINGSa system under which all business is referred without debate to some committee, and owing to whose restrictions the very author of a bill reported may not be suffered to de fend it-was virtually perfect, considered as an apparatus for the suffocation of individual initiative, when in 1861 almost all the Southern members forsook the House of Representatives and left the delegates from the free States to carry the Union through the shocks of civil war. The latter naturally did not discard the potent appliance made ready to their hands, and so it happened that a machine constructed for the shielding of slavery was employed throughout th war and reconstruction periods to cripple and choke off the open or secret enemies of the dominant policy of the Republican party.

Yet, although the system has long sur

and the second s

vived the purpose for which it was fashioned, the rigor of its monopoly is unimpaired to day. But, it will be asked, whatever its origin, may not the continuance of the system be justified on the score of public use fulness, on the ground that with the growth of the republic it has become indispe to the despatch of the vast volume of business? That is a question which we will look at hereafter.

Our Admirable Fire Department. The management of the recent great fires in this city reflects the highest credit on our Fire Department. It proves anew that New York has an organization for dealing with fires which has no superior, if, indeed, it has an equal in any other of the great com-

munities of the world. In discipline and the prompt and intelligent use of the modern appliances for saving property from destruction by fire, it is far ahead of the Fire Brigade of London, for instance, as was shown very conspicuously on the occasion of the burning, not long ago, of WHITELEY'S famous Universal Provider stores in the English metropolis. Though substantially the whole force of the brigade was constantly employed at that fire, it was so slow in getting to work and so bunglingly handled that the flames had got beyond its control before it was ready to put its means for extinguishing them to effective use. Practically the fire seems to have died out of itself, the only notable service having been rendered by American scaling ladders, which were finally brought into employment to check the spread of the flames. As a consequence of the inefficiency of the Fire Brigade on that occasion, meas ures for the improvement of its organization and direction were demanded by the London newspapers, and a movement in that direc

tion, we believe, has since been made. The recent fire in Broadway might easily, with less intelligent management, have de veloped into an extensive conflagration; but, as it was, the destruction was confined within a single block, and to a few buildings. The first fire engines were on the spot in two minutes after the alarm was sounded from the signal station, and soon 300 disciplined firemen and twenty-four engines, with othe appliances, from all parts of the town, were on hand to aid in the work of extinguishing the flames and saving the adjoining struc-

tures from injury.

It was a beautiful exhibition of discipline and efficiency, every man in his proper place, and proceeding with his appointed work certainly and determinedly. The best trained officers could not have brought a perfectly drilled regiment of soldiers into action more skilfully and to better advantage. The attack on such a fire, made in such a way, calls out, too, the same qualities of courage and self-possession which test the value of soldlers and their leaders, and it makes necessary the discipline and the quick adaptation of means to ends that warfare requires

It might be too much to say that, with Fire Department so admirably constituted and organized, New York is in no danger of great conflagrations like those which have occurred in Boston and Chicago, but we can reasonably declare that it is not probable that they will occur here. Therefore, fire insurance companies can take risks on New York with more confidence than in any othe of the large towns of the Union.

In Reply to Mr. Evarts.

At the Lincoln dinner on Saturday night the Hon. WILLIAM M. EVARTS was indiscreet enough to ask this question: "Have we [that is, the Republican party] anything to explain away?" Nobody answered the question, and Mr. Evants didn't try to answer it himself, but went on or off to some thing else. It was a most unfortunate ques tion to ask, but very easy to answer. We don't mind answering it ourselves.

The Republicans have a great deal to explain away, Mr. Evarrs, and they can't do it. The Republicans were in power for twenty-four years, and of that period Mr. LINCOLN'S Administration, of a little more than four years, is about the only part they

don't need to explain away. They boggled reconstruction a scalawags plunder and misrule the South at the point of Federal bayonets. GRANT'S Administration was a series of swindles and scandals. HAYES's began, continued, and ended in fraud, with Mr. Evants as one of the chief conspirators and beneficiaries. GARFIELD's was a quarrel and a falsehood ARTHUR's was the one respectable Republic can Administration since Lincoln's and in ARTHUR'S time ROBESON was the chief figure in the Republican party.

These things need to be explained away. but they cannot be explained away. Mr. EVARTS should avoid direct questions.

He Says the Volunteer was Irish.

A highly sensational statement comes from across the Irish seas, on whose coasts recently there has been some active discussion whether a syndicate of Irishmen should build a boat to try again for the America's cup. A correspondent signing himself "Not win," in a letter upon this question pub ished in the Dublin Sport, says this:

"And now, reader, don't burst into hysterical laughte then I make the assertion that the model from which he Volunteer was built was made by a well-known Dub lin yacht captain. I have seen a letter from a lady in Boston who brought the model in question out with her, and was subsequently solicited by a gentleman in Mr. Busauss's employment to lead it. After the Volunteer ted, several who saw the model and the ve sel averred they were the same, and I hope be to more fully substantiate my statement, and, with pe nission, give the names of the parties concerned."

Hurroo! Bring on your names before you take the Volunteer. That lovely boat a child of Erin! Who would have thought it? Another interesting statement by ou

friend "Notwin," in the same letter, is that if WILLIAM O'NEILL, Mr. JAMESON'S [the Irex's] Captain, had been on board the Thistle the result would have been different." So in this international race between Scotch boat and an Irish boat the Scotian

really proved the better! The Thistle above This writer to the Dublin Sport is evidently full of it himself, or somebody else has had

some fun with him without his knowledge.

That able Republican paper, the Commer cial Gazette of Cincinnati, publishes full-length portraits of three prominent journalists of this city, and upon this subject we feel it to be our duty to put in a protest. The three portraits bear the names, respectively, of WHITELAW REID, OSWALD OTTENDORFER, and WILLIAM Dorsheimen; and, we say it more in sorre than in anger, each one is a caricature of its alleged subject. Not one exhibits either the form, the stature, the features, the temperament, or in any respect the appearance of the distinguished origina. It is difficult to say which is the most unlike of the three; but perhaps that quality belongs to the picture repenjoys the advantage of his acquaintance is well aware. Mr. Dorsheimer is a large and

stately gentleman with an open, manly coun-

tenance, exhibiting kindness of heart and in-

telligence of a high order; but this picture rep-

resents him as a short, dumpy chap, without

grace or dignity, or any indication of intellec-

We appear to the Commercial Gazette not to do this sort of thing. The whole business of pic-ture printing in the great daily journals is run-

ning toward the dregs; and this specimen should make the judicious wish that it might soon cease to exist altogether.

No other public man would have dared to go before the people with the McLican letters staring him in the face. Nor will any other, we think, ever dare to do so again. Mr. Baants withdrawal naves the way for a campaign to be fought on principles.—Evening Post.

Carefully, carefully, "Lanky!" Gampleld went before the people with the Credit Mobiller record staring him in the face, and you supported him.

Don't let the excitement of this event make you forget that your main business just now is n the Second ward, not in the wider field of national politics.

HALL, the Philadelphia person who man

aged the Madison Square Garden walking match, is reported in yesterday's Times as saving: "Every newspaper in this city braced me for mone on condition that they should beem the race, giving me to understand that if the boodle was not forthcoming they would jump on me. They didn't get the boodle

and they did jump on me. Reporters from Tax Scs.

Times, Herold, Journal, News, and Star came to me to
know what it would be worth to them to boom the race, and I refused to give anything." HALL is liberal in his talk, because talk is cheap. If he made the remarks attributed to him by the Times, he is not only a fool, but the champion long-distance liar. THE SUN told the truth about HALL, and that's what makes him howl. Even if the reporters of the New York press were dishonest, they would not be such fools as to expect Hall to give them any

thing. He doesn't give. He takes. The Portland Prohibitionists have nominated Gen. NEAL Dow, the Patriarch of the Drys, for Mayor. But it would do them no good to have even so experienced a Prohibitionist as Gen. Dow for Mayor unless they can somehow persuade everybody who lives in Portland or goes there that thirst is a sin. And yet it is difficult to see how anybody can take a drink of Portland whiskey and not become a rampant Prohibitionist.

A Western labor paper, the editor of which is a member of the Knights of Labor, and was delegate to the last General Assembly of that order held in Minneapolis, publishes a narration there made by Mr. PowderLy of three different attempts to assassinate him. The first attempt was made, according to Mr. POWDERLY, in 1883, when he was crossing in a ferryboa from New York to Hoboken, and, as he testifled before a committee in this city, was the work of the notorious Home Club, with which he was then at war, but with which he after ward came to terms. He had been warned of danger before stepping aboard the ferryboat, and he found it when two of the pas sengers shoved him as he deck near the boat's edge, but he escaped it by walking at once into the cabin. The second attempt to assassinate him was made in Pennsylvania some time afterward, when an unknown man, who looked like one of the ferryboat miscreants, attempted to shove him from the outside platform of a railroad car upon which he stood when the train was rushing over the Lehigh River. The third attempt to assassinate him was made in Denver, Colorado, as late as May of last year, when he was inveigled into a secret meeting of Knights out there, and was rescued from the danger which menaced him, and which came from a hostile brother Knight who sat in front of him the whole evening with a bomb in his pocket. These remarkable circumstances were narrated by Mr. Powderly himself to the General Assembly, according to the account pub-lished in the Wheeling Budget by Delegate EHMANN. None of the three alleged attempts to kill, or rather designs to kill, was made by apitalists or their agents, but all of them were the work of felonious brethren belonging to Mr. PowdenLy's organization. His experiences as told by himself, are most remarkable; and h ought surely to be well guarded bereafter when he walks at large, or travels from or visits any Assembly, as long as he is at the head of the Knights of Labor.

We don't think it will help JOHN SHERMAN much.

The special election in the Eleventh Michigan Congress district occurs to-day. The snow is pretty deep there, but it is expected that there will be enough Republican patriots with now shoes and oiled boots to keep the Repub lican candidate from having a cold day.

Our esteemed contemporary, the Utica Herald, is but one of many journals which insist that that lusty old Republican survival HANNIBAL HAMLIN, doesn't wear an overcos Alas! Mr. Hamlin has not "obeyed the voice at eve obeyed at prime." He does now wear an overcoat, after more than threescore and ten vercoatless years. Yet Mr. Hamlin's motives for change were excellent. He heard that th dudes didn't wear overcoats in the winter, whereupon he bought him an overcoat. Mr HAMLIN doesn't wish to be taken for a dude, and as a matter of fact never has even in his most fascinating days at the

Yesterday was the eighty-third birthday of DAVID DUDLEY FIELD, and it was not forgotten by his father's other sons, who gathered in Washington. The longevity and intellectual eminence of the four FIELD brothers recall the record of their father, who was a clergyman and author, and who was born during the Revolutionary war and lived to be 86 years of age. The eldest of his sons has just entered apon his eighty-fourth year; the second o them, STEPHEN J., is 72 years old; the third. Cynus W., will be 70 next year, and the young est. HENRY M., is 66. The two eldest are natives of Haddam, Conn., and the two other of Stockbridge, Mass. Three of them are graduates of Williams College. The whole four of them have won renown, and all of them are yet active in their respective spheres o duty. The father of the FIELD brothers lived to see his eldest son pass two years beyond the sexagenarian line.

At the conference of the Baptist ministers yesterday the Rev. Dr. Sanson comminated lovels, dancing. French milliners, caterers and society and amusement generally. Apparently the Rev. Dr. Samson's notion of enjoyment is to hear himself talk.

Pamino and Distress Among Christians in

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir : The Amerian missionaries in western Persia, among the Nestor ana write that the poverty and distress which have been fell the poverty and distress which have been felt there for six months past have now reached the sharpness of actual famine. The Rev. J. H. Shedd writes, under date of Dec. 3), 1887: "Unless we have some means in our hands to help our starving brethren and sleters in Christ, we shall have the double anguish of seeing them in starvation and of being powers of seeing them in starvation and of being poweriess to relieve them. We greatly, direly need three or four thousand dollars to relieve those who have no bread. This sum is named as needed immediately to meet the necessities of the native Christians in the churches and congregations under the care of the missionaries.
The Rev. F. G. Goan writes: "One shousand of these will perish before spring without help."

perish before spring without help."
But the missionaries of course, plead not only for their poer co-religionists. They ask the means of relieving the suffering and dying Mohammedans around them: of these the number is much larger than of Christians. They have been often crueily hoatile to the Christian population, but the words of Mr. Coan will be responded to by every heart in America. "Our bleased religion incy have been often cruelly hostile to the Christian population, but the words of Mr. Coan will be responded to by every heart in America. "Our blessed religion teaches us to love our enemies, to do good to those who curse us. Shall we let them die! For them outside of other we is need of all haste if the starving thousands are to be kept from death. "Many will die if we do not help them: many must die before help comes." We help them the sharp must die before help comes. "Writes Mr. Coan, which we writes "Kvery day adde to the sharpness of the chiefd writes. "Kvery day adde to the sharpness of the weight of the sharpness of the sharpness of the ready in the sharpness of the chiefd writes. "Kvery day adde to the sharpness of the weight of the sharpness of the ready of the fine of the sharpness of the word of the sharpness of the weight of the sharpness of the sharpness of the sharpness of the word of the sharpness of the present without delay for the purpose of the sharpness of the propose of the sharpness of the propose of the sharpness of th

unds sent to William Hankin Leq. tressurer of the Presbyterian Soard of Foreign Missions 58 Fifth avenue. New York. will be transmitted to the missionaries by telegraph.

ARTHUR MITCHIELE.

May York, Feb. 11.

THE WEST POINT BILL.

The Inducace of the Distinguished President of the Visiting Board Likely to be Seen in a Liberal Appropriation.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.-The Military Academy Appropriation bill is expected to go through both Houses this year without opposition, and possibly even without discussion unless with a view to giving some members an opportunity to pay a compliment like that which was so pleasantly introduced by Gen. Wheeler recently, when he presented to the House the report of the Board of Visitors for the past year. The distinguished Alabama cavalryman and Congressman is a graduate of West Point, a soldier of renown, and qualified to dis cuss with professional intelligence the important subject matter of the report, which i that of military science and education. Nevertheless, representing no doubt the judgment of his colleagues on the Board of Visitors as of his colleagues on the Board of Visitors as well as his own, he committed the fortunes of the report exclusively to the weight it would carry as the utterances of Mr. Geo. W. Childs, the President of the visiting body, Gen. Wheel-er's address, as reported in full in the Congres-sional Record, was as follows:

Mr. Speaker, in presenting the report of the President of the Board of Visitors to the Multary Academy, I desire to ake present action on the resolution which I send to the Clerk's desk.

The high character of the distinguished President of the Board must add much weight to the suggestions contained in the report.

the Beard must add much weight to the suggestions con-tained in the report.

They are made by a man whose philanthropic generos-it; is not limited by the boundaries of municipalities, states, sections, or peoples, but extends beyond oceans, to races foreign to us in language, customs, and ideas: a man whose purpose in life is to do good to mankind, and to help the weak and the lowly.

The recommendations of such a man upon the subject treated of in the report cannot be too widely dissemi-nated.

The recommendations of such a man upon the subject treated of in the report cannot be toe widely disseminated.

On examination the report, which is now distributed to the public, is really found to be signed not only by Mr. Childs as President, but by Gen. Wheeler as Vice-President, by W. A. Courtenay, Secretary, and by eight other gentlemen, beginning with Gen. R. H. Anderson of Georgia, and ending with the Hon. Ben Butterworth of Ohio. There is also a minority report signed by Mr. George H. Bates, whose name is misprinted Bate at the end of his partial dissent from the majority, but correctly elsewhere in the pamphlet. It is further observable that the plural verb is always used with the word Board as a subject in the main report, in such phrases as "the Board are," "the Board think," the Board feel," and so on. This does not appear to be a mere extension of the editorial we; yet, as will be seen by the speech of Gen. Wheeler, that gentleman preferred to efface not only himself, but all his colleagues, and to present the report as that of President Childs. It is doubtful, also, whether any preceding instance could be quoted of so direct and high a compliment as his accompanying any similar occasion of presenting an annual report of a Board of Visitors.

The resolution submitted by Mr. Wheeler was for the printing of the usual 5,600 extra copies of the report, but it was accompanied with the unusual proposal to consider the resolution at once, instead of referring it to the Committee on Printing. Gen. Wheeler politicity pointed out that there was a peculiar resaon for departing, on this occasion, from the ordinary course:

It is not often that we have reports from a gentleman like we determent.

HATY COURSE:

It is not often that we have reports from a gentleman like Mr.George W.Childs, whose grand sympathetic heart and bank account are always tuned to the same music; but as the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. Blount] missis that the resolution be referred to the Committee on Printing, and as the Chairman of that committee assures me it shall be reported back very promptly, I will interpose no objection.

The House Committee on Military Affairs adopted without a moment's hesitation or a The House Committee on Military Affairs adopted without a moment's hesitation or a single change the report prepared by the subcommittee for the Military Academy, which exceeds that of last year, items being introduced for improving the wharf and building a new laundry. Probably still larger appropriations might have been secured under the general good will felt for President Childs, as expressed by Gen. Wheeler.

The annual report of the Board is an unusually full and elaborate document, comprising 133 printed pages, and rather a gala affair is made of it by the innovation of some julipage illustrations of landscape and interior views at West Point.

WILL MINISTER JARVIS RESIGN? Credited With an Intention to Run Against Ransom for Senator.

OXFORD, N. C., Feb. 12 .- I learn from a ersonal friend of Minister Jarvis that he will in a few days offer his resignation to the State epartment and return to North Carolina to make issue with Senator Ransom for a seat in

make issue with Sonator Ransom for a seat in the United States Senate. The county conventions have already been called, and attempts will be made by the friends of each candidate to control the several delegations.

Mr. Jarvis's friends insist that the office he now holds was conferred at the urgent request of his State, and that it was not a personal presentation of Senator Ransom's. So they hold that Mr. Jarvis is under no obligations to refrain from making a contest against the present Senator.

Mr. Jarvis, while Governor, identified himself with the material interests of his State. He can undoubtedly make a strong fight against Mr. Ransom. If he is so disposed. My own opinion is that the indications at present are that neither of these gentlemen will be sent to Washington. But, next to the repeal of the internal revenue taxes, the leading question in the ensuing campaign will be this personal issue.

Foreign Notes of Real Interest. The fashionable butter makers of America, such as

layor Hewitt and William B. Dinsmore, are far in advance of their English colleagues. They get a dollar a pound for their butter, but the Duchess of Hamilton The last new language into which the "Pilgrim" Progress" has been translated is that of the Fa-

An electric dog cart is one of the novelties Renan, before the National Association for the Prop gation of the French Language Abroad said: "I true you to make the French language the tongue of eter-uity. If it is not, I am lost."

Letters of administration have been granted for the will of the late gun maker. Krupp. He gives to his wife the right to take from his estate such income as she may think proper, not exceeding 500,000 marks per annum. The head nurse of the Children's Hospital in London says that the six general qualifications for a good nurse are "presence of mind, gentleness, accuracy, memory, observation, and forethought." She finds it "a popular female deluzion" that every woman is born a nur America has ceased to be the great absorbent of dia nonds. Our millionaires seem to have got enough, and he country that buys most now is Chins. Shares in and mines are almost all at a premium. The daughter of the former Portuguese Minister a Washington, Mile das Nogueiras, has just made a suc

formont's place, on Jan. 20, a party of seven runs killed 1,500 head of game Jules Simon is the Chauncey Depew of France. He aplains that his country is becoming a great sculpure gallery, and that a monument cannot be unveiled

but he is asked to speak A match for the racket championship of England ha en arranged between the champion P. Latham and Walter Gray, brother of the former champion, Joe Gray. There will be two series of games, on April 25 and May 2 The march of the Lemmings has begun in southern Norway. They are going to the sea in countless numbers The celebrated Marquis de Leuville was recently billed or a recitation at a charitable concert in Putney, but he had a cold and couldn't.

The guests are first conducted to a private chapel, and after a short prayer by the chaplain a sacred concert is

Carrying revolvers is becoming more fashionable in

Paris. The Eiffel tower is now 150 feet high. Prof. Kirchoff, to decide a bet, recently stated that Chinese was the most popular language in the world. It is spoken by 400,000,000 persons; Hindostani by upward of 100,000,000; English by more than 100,000,000 Russian by more than 70,000,000; German by 58,000,000; Spanish by 48,000,000, and French by only 40,000,000. ployed women the same assistance that is now given to unemployed men

ore precious stones are worn now than ever. The Goodwin Sands are disappearing so rapidly that experts think that in the course of a few years vessels may pass over them in safety.

Buffalo Bill is said to be negotiating for a lease of

On a card over a number of books in a West Brompton

Mexandra Palace for three years, and to be thinking of making his home in England. A during impresario has been found for Italian opera in London. Mr. Augustus Harris has leased Covent Garden for eight weeks, beginning in the middle of next May. Albani and Nordica will be in his company. A Beigian manager wishing to inform good fathers and mothers of the character of the plays produced at his theatre uses different colored bills. A red bill signi-fies that the play is somewhat doubtful; a white bill

that it is moral, and a blue bill that it is betwirt and From the St. James's Gozett A novel feature was introduced at President not's last ball. It is called a new "figure." though it

is rather a species of same—a contest of actity, in fact, between the male dancers, who alone take part in it; the prize being a walts with the lady who gives the signal for it. This she does by launching a toy balloon in the air, and the salisatory competition which it pro-vokes among the young men in their frantic efforts to reach the miniature seroetst and secure the prize is said to be extremely diverting

LINCOLN AND THE REPUBLICAN CLUB.

A Remarkable Feature which Cannot be Explained Away. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Abraham Lincoln was one of the greatest men this country has produced. He was a veritable giant in his capacity to assimilate small as well as grea things, in the tenderness of heart which charterizes a woman, and the courage of a hero There was nothing small about him. He was man. In capacity, in love of his country in the broad humanities which cover all the race, even George Washington, the Father of his Country, was not his superior if indeed his peer.

From the time he rose in the Legislature of

Illinois, a raw backwoods representative from

Sangamon county, and placed himself on record as unalterably opposed to the extension of human slavery: from the time that he took Ste ohen A. Douglas by the nape of the neck and wiped clean the States of Illinois, Ohio, and New York with the strong, the time-serving New York with the strong, the time-serving little politician; from the time he entered the White House to the moment when he rose in his Cabinet meeting and read to his astonished counsellors the dra to his Emancipation Proclamation, declaring that he had decided upon the step, and that discussion of its policy and wisdom was not desired or expected; from the beginning of his career to the moment when the bullet of the cowardity. Wilkes Booth laid him low, Abraham Lincoln demonstrated that he was a man of the people—black people, red people, white people—and not the creation or the creature of any party or any calal of politicians. He was the creation of God and the creature of any party or any calal of politicians. He was the creation of God and the creature of the stimes. His entire education was a preparation for the few years he was to stand at the helm and guide the ship of State through the red glare and stunning diapason of war, and contending and irreconcilable differences of opinion to the conquering field of Appematiox, beyond which lay the prospect of a slaveless country, unparallelod prosperity, and the development of concord, unity, and fraternity, against which heathenish demagogues and howling dervishes should beat in vain.

The memory of such a man as Abraham Lincoln does not belong to any one party any more than does the memory of George Washington, and the arrogation of any such possession is an outrage and an insuit to the intelligence and the patriotism of the whole people. But when this is done by men who claim to be direct heirs of the policy for which Lincoln labored and became a martyr, but who represent him in no one thing, the thing becomes a shame and a reproach.

The seventy-ninth birthday of Abraham Lincoln was celebrated in this city on Saturday evening of last week by the Republican Club at the immunitations which were uttered by the distinguished guests of the Republican Club over the disfranchisement and the woes of the lide country of the disfranchisement and the woes of the bl little politician; from the time he entered the White House to the moment when he rose in

I denythat this Republican Club is a private corporation, or that its celebration of the memory of Abraham Lincoln was a private affair. Any attempt to make it appear to the contrary must recoil upon the club with disastrous force. I would not take exception to this glaring inconsistency of the Republican Club if it did not represent a party which notoriously claims to be the special friend of the colored people, and if some of its guests had not made it a special feature of their remarks to animadvert upon the denial of their civil rights to colored citizens and their undying "gratitude" to the Republican machine.

citizens and their undying "gratitude" to the Republican machine.

Mr. William Brookfield, Chairman of the Dinner Committee, is reported by a morning paper to have said:

We thoroughly considered the matter of inviting a colored man to address us and as a guest, but the trouble was as te who should be asked. When Senator Lynch was here during the Republican Convention I asked him if he could come to our dinner and also make us an address, but he stated that it would be absolutely impossible for him to do so.

I then asked him if I could not get Mr. Bruce, but he said Mr. Bruce was in the hands of a lecture bureau and making a tour of the West, and at the time of our dinner would be too far West to come on.

The question of whom to invite then rested purely on whom it would be advisable to invite, and as no decision could be reached none others were requested to be preserved and the property of the

Invited guests.

This explanation, instead of elucidating the position of the club, more hopelessly obfuscates it. Of course those present not members of the club were guests. They would not have been there if they had not been "invited." The character of the "invited guests" and the tenor of their remarks gave the whole affair the air of a national, representative celebration, and the fact that the committee had thoroughly considered the matter of "inviting a colored man" shows that the club recognized the inconsistency of ignoring in celebrating the birthday of Abraham Lincoln the class of citizens who owe his memory more reverence

the birthday of Abraham Lincoin the class of citizens who owe his memory more reverence than any other race of people on the continent, and who have been among the stanchest adherents of the party of which he was the virtual moulder and greatest exempler. Signs are not wanting to show the utter degeneracy of the Republican party, its howling inconsistency and its provoking hypocrisy; and colored men all over the nation, in the teeth of a Presidential election, are considering these features with vastly more assiduity and intelligence than Republican politicians have the regence than Republican politicians have the re-motest idea of. T. Thomas FORTUNE, New York, Feb. 13.

A French Financier on the Panama Canal. From the St. James's Gasette

M. Paul Leroy-Beaulieu, in the Economiste Français of the 28th ult., says that he is "obliged to re turn to the subject of that lamentable and disastrous e such as the indemnity paid for the German war, without any chance of pecuniary remuneration." He remark that no appeal was made to the French Government for counsel at the origin or during the conduct of the enter prise, and that it is not until all serious men regard the cheme as an utter failure that the Ministry is summo ed rather than requested to come to its aid. He point scriptions at a lower rate of discount than that already paid. The l'anama Directors could not, if their reques were granted, borrow more money at less than 9 or 1 per cent interest; and the real object of the application to M. Rouvier is to obtain the Government stamp upon the enterprise, in the hope of thus attracting new sub "We are ourselves convinced," says M. Lero: "that the attempt will fail. The Gulf of Panama is to ernment authorization might enable the company to re ard by three or six months the inevitable catastroph The upshot would be the same: we should only have de youred a little more of French savings, and uselessly compromised the Government."

Confining himself to the financial aspect of the scheme M. Leroy points out that M. de Lessops has successively declared that the sea level canal would be open on the lat of October, 1887; on the lat of January, 1888; on the lat of March, 1880; and on the lat of July, 1889. At the general meeting in 1884 he declared that it could be "mathematically" finished on the 1st of January, 1888. He further recalls the successive estimates of cost—300 millions 1.070 millions, 1,200 millions, 1.610 millions of france: and he considers the last as hypothetical as any of its predecessors. He refers to the latest scheme, the locked canal, and shows that at the best rate of progress. ocked canal, and shows that at the best rate of progress hitherto made in the deep cuttings of the Cordillera eight or nine years would be required for the execution oight of hime years would be required for the calculation of the reduced quantity of excavation. He remarks that, in stating to M. Rouvier the cost of the canal. M. de Lesseps omitted to refer to 100 millions of five per cent. seps omitted to refer to 100 millions of five per centican. He calculates the sum still required for the roduced work at 1.505 millions; bringing the cost of the canal, with looka to 2.625 millions of franca. "These valuations," he concludes, "are alone those which repuse on a serious basis." N. Leroy expresses regret that while his efforts are appreciated by the great and by the modulate capitalists of France, among whom no one believes ern's capitalists of France, among whom no one believes in the future of the Panama Canal, they have not en. tirely reached the plane of the petits rentiers so as to preserve them from the ruin brought on them by the company, but he finds symptoms that even here his work has not been altogether in vain

The Old Man's Assistance.

"Remember, my boy," said Uncle James, as he gave Bobby a coin, "that if you take care of the pennies the dollars will take care of themselves." Hobby looked a trifle dublous.
"I do take care of the ponnies." he replied. "but as

n as they get to be dollars pa takes cars of 'em.' Superior Advantages.

"Yes," boasted a Quaker City man. "there is place in the country where you can get as good butter as you can in Philadeln remarked the same thing myself." said a anger. "I suppose it is owing to the superior and undant pasturage there."

Disturbs his Slumbers. Deacon's Wife (at a late breakfast Sunday

morning)—Will you have another cut of coffee my deart
Deacon—No: I've barely time to get ready for church,
and besides, a second cup of coffee Leepe me awais.

It was Wrong; but Such an Error Doesn't From the Philadelphia Inquires We regret to be compelled to say that Gov.

Bill has fallen short of Tau sur's test of fitness for the
Frestdency. In his Tilden sulogy on Thursday night he
used the expression. "In this connection."

A service of the serv

Charles Lempriere, D. C. L., a well-known scholar of the University of Oxford, and a Fellow of St. John's Col-lege, tarried a few days in this city last week while on his way from England to Cuba. Long ago he travelled over this country, and dwelt for some years in New York, where he became well known in cultured circles. Ever since then he has been a warm friend of America and Americans, as many visitors to the shades of old Oxford can testify, especially those who have enjoyed the hospitality of his quarters in St. Johns. He has been a great traveller over all the continents of the world and among all the races of manking and whether his converse by of modern life or of classical thence it is always rich and delightful. Dr. Lempriere is a sen of John Lempriere of conford University, long renowned as the author of the Bibliothesa Classica, or "Classical Dictionary," which was published just 100 years ago, and which from that period until recent times was the chief book of reference in our language upon ancient mythology, biography, and geography, When Br. Charles Lempriere was formerly in this coun-

INTERESTING GOSSIP OF THE DAY.

try many people were surprised to learn that he was the blooming and brilliant son of a scholar whose crudita quarto was thumbed by their great grandfathers. The Sunday evening receptions of Col. Robert G. ingersoil are much spoken of by the many we come guests of both sexes who enjoy them in the spacious drawing room of his Fifth avenue mansion, which stands under the shadow of a fashionable church. On these occasions the famous agnostic lays aside the cares of his egal practice and becomes humorous, festive, and sociable. His benignant wife and two accomplished daughters give variety, grace, and charm to the passing hours of genial intercourse. The Colonet's champague bunch is in itself proof positive that he is not wholly an agnostic.

Those who have recently seen Gen. Ben Busier declare the current stories of his decrepitude to be untrue lie s 70 years older than he was at the time of his birth in 1818, and the trying winter weather of Boston has its effect upon his joints, but his mental powers are in their full strength, and he looks as though he would yet enjoy many years of active life.

The vast length of ex Father McGlynn's oft repeated speeches is often embarrassing to the Chairmen of his rheetings, especially when other ambitious orators on the platform are anxiously awaiting their turn to speak Chairman Quinn tried hard to stop him last Sunday night, after he had taken up far more than the hour allotted to him as the first speaker; but the warnings were unheeded, and it was long after 10 o'clock when he reluctantly yielded the floor. At another meeting, which was held in Cooper Institute some time ago, when there were six speakers on the list, Dr. McGiynn spoke so long that the Chairman grew restive, and finally, stepping to his side at the desk, told him his time was up. "I'll his side at the desk told him his time was up. "I'll soon stop." the speaker whispered, as he took a fresh start. In a half hour the Chairman again stepped up to the desk and gave him another warning lasted till the Chairman sprang from his sent and stood up stiffly beside the speaker, who was nonplussed and The other big guns of elequence on the platform did not get much of a show that night, and one of them who had come all the way from Boston, was so highly in-censed that he could hardly open his mouth when the Chairman called him up. The long-winded ex-priest has detested that Chairman ever since that night. Yet it is a fact that when Dr. McGlynn preached in St. Stephen's, period allotted to them by the rules and custom of the

According to the reports current among the Anar chists of this city, the widows and children of the men recently executed in Chicago, are well provided for.

Here is a story sent by a lady to the gossiper. Not long ago an old New York bachelor, who has quarters in an apartment house, was asked by one of the domestics of the establishment to lend her a small sum of money till her wages were due. She confided to him the fact that she had seen a certain number in her dream, and wanted to buy a ticket of that number in the Havana lottery. Soon afterward the bachelor ascertained that the holder of the ticket of that very number had drawn the chief prize of \$10,000. He reached his quarters earlier than usual that afternoon, and, before dark, found opportunity for a confab with the dreaming donestic, who seemed to him more than usually attract tive, but he was careful not to tell her of her luck "Kitty," he said at an opportune moment, "you know I have always thought a great deal of you, and have in-tended for a long time to ask you if you would be mine!" Though rather dumfounded by the unexpected mine: Though rather dumfounded by the unexpected proposal of the backelor, to whom she had looked up, she was equal to the occasion, and, as he was in haste about the matter, the wedding was fixed for the ensuing Sanday. That very evening, soon after the ceremony had been performed, he selzed her hand, and expected to strike her with surprise by whispering the news of her wonderful fortune in the lottery, which he had hoped to enjoy. "But my dear," she quickly answered, 'I did not buy the ticket of the number I first dreamer of, for I had another dream next night of another num-ber, which I got, and it has drawn a blank!" It was a arrowing disappointment to the poor ex-bachelor, who nowever, had a bride able to keep his quarters in apple

sleighs that were out in Central Park yesterday and on Sunday. The liverymen put out not only their oldest Sunday. The liverymen put out not only their oldest sleighs but their clerks and bookkeepers to drive them. loney was coined hand over fist, and, strange to say, or Sunday when there are usually so many runaways accidents were few and far between. The meanest tricks on is to offer a sleigh ride for a dollar, and then to drive One of those dollar's worth lasts just six minutes

SUNBEAMS.

-At Sullivan, on Frenchman's Bay, opposite Bar Harbor, they dig a shellfish which some of the natives declare superior to scollops. It is called razer fish, from the fact that the shell is shaped like a rator handle. The shell is of a dark blue color, and it is quite difficult to open it with a knife. These fish are found in the mud, like clams. They are very acute of hearing. and disappear quickly when disturbed, so that anybody who wants to get a mess of them has to dig pretty lively -The usefulness of tungstate of soda in

imparting the quality of non-inflammability to various materials is now largely utilized. Cloth, when soaked in a solution of this kind, say of twenty per cent., and al owed to dry, will not burst into a flame when brought into contact with fire, the simple effect of the latter b preparing linen and light muslin garments in this man or the solution is usually mixed with the starch, and the addition of about three per cent of phosphate of soda to the tungstate is also said to be an improvement. Wood can be treated in a similar manner, but it is rather an expensive process when undertaken on a considerable

-The husband of a woman in Sheffield. England, having got out of work a few months ago, went to Australia, and on his way out made the a quaintance of a woman who formed a great attach for him. Finding that he was already married, she sag gested that possibly his wife left at home would sell him to her, and he jokingly advised her to "write and ask." She did write, and the wife not only wrote that she was willing, but named her price, \$500. The figure was too high, and, after a little bargaining, \$100 was accepted. The money was sent, and with it a document, drawn up in legal form, setting forth that for the sum named the was signed by the wife, and sent back to Australia. The latest report is that the man and the woman have since

been married. -The assistant pastor of a Boston church is young, good looking, unmarried. He is particularly zealous in mission work. So is a certain young woman, who colabors with him with great apparent relish. Her peculiar work is with a big clan of small boys to whom she gives no end of good advice. The other Sunday he was talking to them in the presence of the young parson, and she closed her little sermon thus: "I want you to be good boys, and do these things, because I love you "I know who you love most," shouted a small boy front seat. "Well, who is it?" kindly asked the in a front seat. young woman utterly unsuspecting the approaching thunderbolt: "Him!" yelled the boy, pointing a direr finger at the young clergyman. The boys giggled, the poor teacher blushed scarlet, and the young minister looked very, very thoughtful.

-Some of the natural woods of California and Oregon are coming into extensive use, both at home and abroad for interior finish the most valuable for this purpose being the redwood, the white cedar, the laurel, and the sycamore. The redwood takes the lead in this line, taking a good points, and, for general use, wear, and staying qualities is alleged to have no superior in any forest in the world. The laurel is smooth, Peautifully figured, and a logother a most desirable.
The value of the sycamore as an ornamental wood has only quite recently become generally known, its grain being much like that of the sastern birch having waying lines close together, and, as it is quite tough and strong, it possesses superior value for womening. The Oregon ash is of beauty and utility for decerative purposes, is figured with concentric curves, and allows an attractive point. The maple of that State is also of beautiful appearance light yellow in solor, and surface covered with small, wavy lines, of especial

beauty in the gaslight -We sat by the drummer, you and I in the playbears a few night age.

And gazed at the indiffer sitting nigh.

As its sawed with his graceful bow.

We knew 'twas mileic you and I.
Though its soft sweet lones were drowned
Before, size! they could get by
The drummer with cymbals and sound.

And oh! how we wished that you and I Had a run, that that man we might fire To realms of eleraity on high.

Where a drummer is not in the choir!